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of the gentlemen, signing the requisition, that the high sheriff would consult the most convenient season for that purpose, he called a meeting for the 28th of October, when a petition was agreed on.

It was in this year also, the Major, as appears by the dates, gave a new edition of the "Declaration of Rights, without which no Englishman can be a free Man, nor the English Nation a free People," to which he now added a forcible appeal to the understandings of his countrymen, under this title, "For the great constitutional *Right and Duty*, as well as the *Wisdom* and the *Necessity*, of being *ARMED* for defence of the *Peace*, the *Laws*, and the *Liberties*, of our Country, see the following Authorities and Arguments." This piece was not only printed and widely circulated, in a plain dress, by the Society for Constitutional Information, but was likewise published in an elegant style for being framed and glazed as an ornamental piece

of furniture; the declaration having a broad margin or border enriched by emblems and allegories, verses, and quotations, expressive of the contrast between liberty and slavery, and illustrative of the doctrines of the Declaration. A declaration, of which it was said, by the immortal Sir William Jones, (a member of the society,) that "it ought to be written in letters of gold:" and a declaration over which the equally immortal Chatham, with tokens of deep emotion, emphatically pronounced these words: "Aye, this is very right."*

Amongst other ornaments of this copper-plate print, a bust of the Duke of Richmond is most conspicuous, and, indeed, it is made the principal figure; and there are likewise medallions of Jebb, Northcote, Lofti, Sharp, and Cartwright, as those by whom the doctrines of the declaration had been most successfully inculcated.

(*To be continued.*)

DETACHED ANECDOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

DESPONDENCY OF GOOD MEN.

MINDS once thoroughly imbued with the love of what Sidney in his last moments so emphatically called "the good, old cause," will not easily relinquish their principles; nor was the manner in which absolute power was exercised, such as to reconcile to it in practice those who had always been averse to it in speculation. The hatred of tyranny must in such persons, have been exasperated by the experience of its effects, and their attachment to liberty proportionably confirmed. To them the state of their country

must have been intolerable: to reflect upon the efforts of their fathers, once their pride and glory, and whom they themselves had followed with no unequal steps, and to see the result of all in the scenes that now presented themselves, must have filled their minds with sensations of the deepest regret, and feel-

* The Declaration was put into his hands by the late General Oglethorpe, who upon a visit to Mr. Granville Sharp, reported the fact to Major Cartwright; but the writer of these memoirs, believes it was the first edition of the Declaration that was shown to Lord Chatham.

ings bordering at least on despondency.

To us, who have the opportunity of combining, in our view of this period, not only the preceding but subsequent transactions, the consideration of it may suggest reflections far different, and speculations more consolatory. Indeed I know not that history can furnish a more forcible lesson against despondency, than by recording, that within a short time from those dismal days in which men of the greatest constancy despaired, and had reason to do so, within five years from the death of Sidney, arose the brightest æra of freedom known to the annals of our country. [*Fox's Introductory Chapter to the reign of James the Second.*]

EUTHANASIA, OR PLACID MANNER OF DYING.

In an eulogy of the life and labours of Le Comte La Grange, read before the Imperial Institute in France, the following interesting conversation is stated to have taken place with Lapeyre, Monge, and Chaptal, who, two days before his death in his 78th year, 8th of April, 1813, were conducted by friendship to his house, and who recorded his expressions.

He received them with tenderness and cordiality. "I was very ill, my friends," said he, "the day before yesterday: I perceived myself dying, my body became weaker, my mental and physical powers were gradually declining; I observed with pleasure the gradual diminution of my strength; and I arrived at the point without pain, without regret, and by a very gentle declivity. Death is not to be feared, and when it comes without violence, it is a last function which is neither painful nor disagreeable." Then he explained to them his ideas respecting life, the seat of which he consider-

ed as spread over the whole body, in every organ, and all parts of the machine, which in his case became equally feeble in every part by the same degrees. "A little longer and there would have been no functions, death would have overspread the whole body, for death is merely the absolute repose of the body. I wished to die," added he with greater force, "I found a pleasure in it; but my wife did not wish it. I should have preferred at that time a wife less kind, less eager to restore my strength, and who would have allowed me gently to finish my career. I have performed my task, I have acquired some celebrity in the mathematics, I have hated nobody, I have done no ill; it is now proper to finish."

ACTIVE BENEVOLENCE.

The following letter was read at a meeting of the Governors and Friends of the London Hospital, July 13th, 1814.

"To the Chairman of the Meeting of Friends of the London Hospital,

"SIR.—At the early part of last year, I had determined to indulge myself in a luxury which would have cost about the amount I now inclose. I happened to hear about that time, that the Committee of the London Hospital were obliged to reduce the number of its patients, and to keep some wards unopened for want of finances. Contrasting, therefore, the pleasure I should receive from this self-gratification, with the good that might be done to many of my poor neighbours, by the enlarged efficacy of the Hospital; comparing my own pleasure with the joy which whole families would receive from the restored labour, health, ease, and comfort, of those to whom they looked for

bread; weighing against my own desires the averted wretchedness, the mitigated pain, of those to whom the suspension of the means of labour is the suspension of the means of subsistence, I could not but determine that *my* superfluities were the patrimony of the poor.

"I beg, therefore, that you will apply the £100 inclosed to the service of the Hospital.

"I hope I shall be excused for troubling you with my private feelings, but I thought that such an expression of them might lead other gentlemen to consider if they could not diminish their own luxuries to add to the essential comforts of their fellow men.

"Your obedient servant,

Homo."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

LINES WRITTEN BY THE LATE ALEX.

H. HALIDAY, M.D. ON THE CELEBRATED HUSSEY BURGH, THEN DYING OF AN INFECTIOUS FEVER CAUGHT UPON CIRCUIT, IN WHICH HE WENT AS JUDGE, IN THE YEAR ****. *Died at Armagh, 1783 Sept 29*

Armagh, September 30th...Midnight.

THUS to my heart the Soul of Nature spoke,
While Death suspends th' inevitable stroke;
"Reason's fix'd light, imagination's flame,
I lend to Man, and when I list, reclaim;
Behold and tremble; on yon lowly bed
Numbered not yet, among the illustrious dead,
Hussey, whose breast their brightest beams illum'd,
In rayless mental night, to languish doom'd.
That awful scene contemplate; when the sigh
Heaves, and the drops of anguish dew the eye,
Oh, think! how soon in darkness quench'd may be
The feeble glimm'rings which are lent to thee;
There look ye, proud of genius; weep and own
You shine, like moons, with borrowed rays alone;
There her chief boast, to teach this lesson lies.

Detained, a few sad moments, from the skies:

Nor to the last from his loved duty swerves,
He lived to bless mankind, and dying serves;

He lived to bless: all else shall fade away,
Goodness can't perish, nor true worth decay.
What tho' his honour'd partners in those hours

When mirth's fresh streams revive Man's fainting powers,

Wondered at wit which only flowed to please,

And wisdom in the graceful garb of ease;
Tho' fancy's favourites with delighted eyes,
Saw from his pencil new creations rise,
Or pour'd, enchanted by his magic lays,
The swelling tide of unregarded praise;
Tho' list'ning senates on his tuneful tongue
For Freedom pleading, in mute rapture hung,

Astonished by the splendour of his parts,
'Till the soft pathos waked to woe their hearts.

Tho' all rever'd the guardian of the laws,
Mild e'en to vice, yet warm in virtue's cause,

While dignity with elegance combined,
Expressed each beauty and each grace of mind—

He lies insensate! Let him now depart,
Touch, touch him, Death! yet gently, with thy dart;

Thy prey I give thee, that the spirit, freed
From chains and darkness, may receive its need;

What erst was lent from Heav'n shall be his own,

To full perfection, with his virtues, grown."